



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

EUGENE A. CONTI, JR.
SECRETARY

EDS MEMO TO: NCBDS USERS

FROM: Brian Hanks, P. E.
 Project Engineer

DATE: October 6, 2010

SUBJECT: DESCUS RATING – LIVE LOAD FACTORS

The default HL-93 live load factors in DESCUS are 1.75 for Inventory and 1.35 for Operating. When rating non-AASHTO trucks, e.g. NC legal trucks, DESCUS continues to use 1.35 as the Operating live load factor. For NC legal trucks, a live load factor of 1.40 should be applied rather than the 1.35 default. In order to properly rate NC legal trucks, use the default live load factors and multiply the rating factor by 0.964. Please see the *NCBDS Manual* for details on this method as well as a second option.

Chapter 10 of the *NCBDS Manual* has been updated to provide guidance on rating with DESCUS. The manual is available on the network via the following path: S:\Share\NCBDS Manual.

BCH/DNS